**Import of rubber**

49. SHRI K. MOHANAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to import 20,000 tonnes of rubber;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the quantity of rubber available in the country as at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Domestic production of natural rubber upto August, 1985 would not be sufficient to meet the domestic demand. The gap is estimated to be of the order of 20,000 tonnes. At the end of June, 1985 estimated stock of natural rubber was around 39,000 tonnes, without taking into account the import by STC.

**Closure of Anglo-French Textile Mill**

50. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA:

Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) since when the Anglo-French Textile Mill at Pondicherry is lying closed;

(b) how many workers were employed at the time of the closure;

(c) the total number of man-days since lost and the amount of loss of production in terms of money and cloth;

(d) whether any steps have been taken to rehabilitate the workers; if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to take over the mill by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) and (b) The Anglo-French Textiles Mill, Pondicherry has been lying closed since July, 1983. At the time of its closure the number of workers was around 6800;

(c) For the period July 1983 to June 1985 the total number of mandays lost is estimated to be around 32.13 lakhs and the loss of production of yarn and cloth around 1.86 crore Kgs and 8.6 crore metres respectively;

(d) Efforts are on to explore the possibility of re-opening the undertaking.

(e) The Government have not taken any decision regarding take-over of the undertaking so far.

**Closed Textile Mills**

51. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI L. GANESAN:

Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of textile mills presently closed in the country;

(b) what is the number of workers who have lost their jobs as a result of such closure during the last three years State-wise;

(c) what is the total number of man-days thus lost, year-wise;

(d) what was the question of loss in production during the above period and the financial extent of loss, year-wise; and

(e) what is the number of closed textile mills which are proposed to be takenover by Government in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) and (b) As on 31st May, 1985, 68 cotton textile mills were closed in the country. The number of workers affected as a result of closure of the said 68 cotton textile mills is 95,415.